

PATENT APPLICATION TRANSMITTAL LETTER

Docket Number
SP1042

To the Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks:
Transmitted herewith for filing under 35 USC 111 and 37 CFR 1.53 is the patent application of **Russell D. Cole**

entitled **Magnet Picture Pals**

Enclosed are:

- ☒ 13 pages of written description, claims and abstract.
☒ 3 sheets of drawings.
☐ an assignment of the invention to
☒ executed declaration of the inventors.
☐ a certified copy of a application.
☐ associate power of attorney
☒ a verified statement to establish small entity status under 37 CFR 1.9 & 1.27
☒ information disclosure statement.
☐ preliminary amendment.
☐ other:

CLAIMS AS FILED

BASIC FEE
TOTAL CLAIMS
INDEPENDENT CLAIMS
MULTIPLE DEPENDENT CLAIM PRESENT

NUMBER FILED	NO. EXTRA	RATE	FEE
8	0	\$690	\$760
3	0	\$39	\$0
0	NO	\$0	

SMALL ENTITY

	TOTAL	\$0
YES	TOTAL	\$345

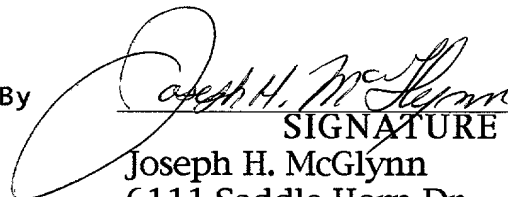
- ☒ A check in the amount of is enclosed.
☐ The commissioner is hereby authorized to charge and credit Deposit Account No. as described below. I have enclosed a duplicate copy of this sheet.

- ☐ Charge the amount of as filing fee.

PATENT & TRADEMARK SERVICES IN

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By


SIGNATURE

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Regis. NO. 38,028

SP 1042

In re application of: **Russell Dale Cole**

Docket No.: **SP 1042**

Application No.: **Unknown**

Filed:

Title: **Magnet Picture Pals**

**VERIFIED STATEMENT (DECLARATION) CLAIMING SMALL ENTITY
STATUS (37 CFR §§ 1.9 (f) and 1.27 (b))
INDEPENDENT INVENTOR**

As a below named inventor, I hereby declare that I qualify as an independent inventor as defined in 37 CFR § 1.9 (c) for purposes of paying reduced fees under §§ 41(a) and (b) of Title 35, United States Code, to the Patent and Trademark Office with regard to the invention entitled: **Magnet Picture Pals**, described in

☒ [X] the specification filed herewith

☐ [] application Serial No. *, filed *

☐ [] Patent No. *, issued

I have not assigned, granted, conveyed or licensed and am under no obligation under contract or law to assign, grant, convey or license, any rights in the invention to any person who could not be classified as an independent inventor under 37 CFR § 1.9 (c) if that person had made the invention, or to any concern which would not qualify as a small business concern under 37 CFR § 1.9 (d) or a nonprofit organization under 37 CFR § 1.9 (e).

Each person, concern or organization to which I have assigned, granted, conveyed or licensed or am under an obligation under contract or law to assign, grant, convey or license any rights in the invention is listed below:

☒ [X] no such person, concern or organization

I acknowledge the duty to file, in this application or patent, notification of any change in status resulting in loss of entitlement to small entity status prior to paying, or at the time of paying, the earliest of the issue fee or any maintenance fee due after the date on which status as a small entity is no longer appropriate. (37 CFR § 1.28 (b)).

I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under § 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code, and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application, any patent issuing thereon, or any patent to which this verified statement is directed.

Russell Dale Cole

NAME OF INVENTOR

X Russell Dale Cole
Signature of Inventor

X 8-4-2000
Date

MAGNET PICTURE PALS

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

This invention relates to a holder for a photographic or the like that uses a magnetic to attract and retain the holder to a metallic surface. For many years it has become commonplace to use magnets fixed to objects to retain the object to an attractable metallic surface.

DESCRIPTION OF THE PRIOR ART

Object holders with different types of mounts have been used for some time to detachably mount the objects on supporting surfaces, such as refrigerator doors. In many cases these holders use magnets to retain and attract the holder to supporting metallic surfaces. For example, U.S. Patent 3,965,599 to Egner discloses a mounting system that uses magnets to mount a picture to a metallic surface, such as on a refrigerator door

U.S. Patent 4,785,562 to Good discloses a mounting system which has four corners and magnets are used to mount a picture to a supporting

surface such as a refrigerator door.

U.S. Patent 4,852,282 to Selman discloses a mounting system used with a calendar that has a clear cover sheet and magnets to mount the calendar to a metallic surface which surface also could be a refrigerator door.

U.S. Patent 4,912,864 to Price discloses a frame for mounting sheet material to a surface which support surface could also be a refrigerator door.

U.S. Patent 5,050,834 to Tardiff discloses a supporting plate of clear plastic which uses magnets or adhesive to mount a picture to a surface such as a refrigerator door.

In the present invention mounting system includes at least two corner pieces with each corner piece including three layers. One layer is a magnetic material, another layer is a non-slip material and the third layer is a clear cover all as will be detailed in the specification that follows hereafter.

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

This invention relates to mounting system having at least two corner

pieces with each piece having three layers. One of the layers in each piece is made of magnetic material, another layer is made of non-slip material and the third layer is made of a clear or transparent material.

It is the primary object of the present invention to provide for an improved mounting system for photographs, calendars, and like objects to be displays against a supporting surface.

Another object is to provide for such a system in which there are at least two spaced pieces that engage corners of the object to be displayed with each pieces having three layers of material including a magnetic layer, a non-slip layer and a clear cover layer.

An additional object of the present invention is to use the same mount for objects with different width and height dimensions by spacing the holding corner pieces at different distances apart to accommodate the different sized objects.

These and other objects and advantages of the present invention will become apparent to readers from a consideration of the ensuing description and the accompanying drawings.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

FIG. 1 is a perspective front view of the present invention.

FIG. 2 is a side cross sectional similar to the FIG. 1 holder showing the holder mounted to a supporting surface with a corner of a photograph inserted in the holder.

FIG. 3 (a) is a front view showing four holders mounted on the four corners of a typical object with two mid holders placed against the supporting surface of a refrigerator door.

FIG. 3 (b) is a side cross sectional view showing one of the two mid holders of FIG. 3 (a) engaging an edge of an object.

DESCRIPTION OF THE PREFERRED EMBODIMENT

FIG. 1 is a perspective front view of the present holder invention

1. Three distinct planar layers are used to make the holder. All of the layers may be shaped like a right triangle. One material layer 3 that directly engages the back surface of the object to be held, like a corner of a rectangular shaped photograph, is made of non-slip material like a foam or foam rubber or the like. Fixed or otherwise held to the layer 3 is a second layer 5, similarly shaped, made substantially of a magnetic

material. The third holder layer 7 is also triangularly shaped like a pocket with the hypotenuse side 9 opened to receive the right angle corner of the planar object to be held. Layer 7 may be a clear or transparent plastic material. Transparent layer 7 may consist of a single layer bonded at two of its edges to the similarly shaped and sized layer 5 with an opened hypotenuse edge, as shown in FIG. 1.

Alternately, layer 7 may consist of two parallel identically sized folded layers with the same shape and size having joining corner edges used to form an opened pocket, as shown in FIG. 2. The layer 5 with the magnetic material may have the same shape and size as the layer 3 or may be a different smaller surface size as long as it provides sufficient holding power for the holder on the supporting for the retained object. If two layers are used to construct the pocket layer 7, one of these layers--the bottom layer--may be below the magnetic layer 5 and thereby act to help retain the magnet layer within the pocket layer as well as the non-slip layer 3.

FIG. 2 is a side cross sectional view similar to the FIG. 1 holder showing the holder 1 mounted against the flat supporting surface 11 with a corner of a photograph 13, object to be held, inserted in the holder. In

this embodiment of the invention, the outer transparent layer 7 is also triangular shaped but consists of two parallel layers joined at their respective non-hypotenuse side edges 15 to each other with an opened space between their two hypotenuse sides 9.

Inserted within the space between the side edges 9 is one of the right angled corners of the object 13. The top surface 17 of object 13 bears directly against the outer exposed layer of pocket 7 while the lower surface of object 13 bears the the non-slip surface 3 which directly contacts the magnetic material layer 5. Layer 5 bears against the top surface of the lower layer 7 and it and the layer 3 are within the pocket formed by the two layers 7.

As stated before, the magnetic layer 5 may have the same shape as the non-slip layer 3 located against its upper side or may have any desired shaped within the confines of the pocket as long as it performs to hold both the holder and the supported object corner to the supporting magnetically attractable support surface 11, like the flat surface of a refrigerator. The layer 5 could , for example, be formed by spaced small magnets or magnetic materials spread along and lower surface of object engaging layer 3.

At least two corners of support object are usually engaged by two different and identical holders 1 to retain the object in a level supported position, however, in many cases four such holders are used with one holding each of the four corners of the object. For example, if the planar object 13 to be retained was a rectangular shaped photograph or calendar, then each of four corners would be engaged by a separate holder spaced along the supporting surface. The spacing between holders is determined by the dimensions of the planar object to be held. Clearly, the same four corner holders can be used to retain objects with different dimensions, heights and lengths, thereby providing for greater versatility in use as contrasted to an object holding member whose corners are fixed relative to each other.

FIG. 3 (a) is a front view showing four separate corner mounted holders 1 with two mid holders 25. All six holders are placed against the supporting surface of a refrigerator door. In this particular use, the top freezer door is the supporting flat metallic surface 11 for the four spaced holders 1 and the two mid holders 25. Each corner holder is configured as in FIG.1 or FIG. 2 and retains one of the four corners of an object, like a photograph or calendar 13.

In fact any object with the necessary sized holder engaging corners may be so retained against the flat supporting surface. Either the single layer embodiment of the transparent layer 7 (FIG. 1) or the dual layer embodiment (FIG. 2) may be used for the holders. Each embodiment provides a formed corner pocket for the respective corners of the object to be held. If it is desired to remove the displayed object and insert another in its place, the holders can be simply detached from the supporting support 11 and positioned to engage the corners of the new object to be retained. In this embodiment the supporting surface 11 is the front flat top freezer door of a refrigerator.

FIG. 3 (b) is a side cross sectional view showing one of the two identical mid holders of FIG. 3 (a) engaging an edge of the object 13. Each mid holder 25 may consists of three layers as in FIG. 1. The outer layer 27 is a transparent layer with the edge of the object 13 to be held positioned between that layer and the non-slip layer 29. A single backing member 33 along with parallel layers 27 and 29 forms an opened pocket to receive the edge of the object, like a photograph. Backing 33 extends to where layer 31 joins it perpendicularly. Layer 31 has magnetic materials to attach the holder 25 to the supporting freezer door surface 11. Clearly

the holder 25 may be used along any of the straight outer edges of the object to retain it to the supporting surface 11. More than two such holders 25 may be used as desired.

If desired the corner holders 1 may be made of non-transparent material and of different colors and designs. For non-metallic support surfaces 11, adhesive backing surfaces could be used in place of the magnetic layers 5. Almost any planar object with engageable corners can be displayed using the holders disclosed.

Although the preferred embodiment of the present invention and the method of using the same has been described in the foregoing specification with considerable details, it is to be understood that modifications may be made to the invention which do not exceed the scope of the appended claims and modified forms of the present invention done by others skilled in the art to which the invention pertains will be considered infringements of this invention when those modified forms fall within the claimed scope of this invention.

What I claim as my invention is:

Claim 1. A holder for an object comprising:

a holder having at least three layers,

the first layer of said three layers having a non-slip surface to engage and bear against the surface of the object to be held,

the second layer of said three layers having magnetic material, and

the third layer of said three layers consisting of at least one layer of a transparent material that forms a planar object receiving pocket,

said pocket being positioned between the third layer and the first layer of the holder.

Claim 2. The holder for an object as claimed in claim 1, wherein each of said three layers are generally triangularly shaped with the pocket, formed by the third layer and the first layer, being opened at the hypotenuse side edge of the triangles.

Claim 3. The holder for an object as claimed in claim 2, wherein said third transparent material layer is made of a clear plastic material.

Claim 4. The combination of holder and a planar object with corner edges comprising:

a holder having at least three distinct material layers,
the first layer of said three layers having a non-slip surface to engage and bear against a corner surface of the planar object to be held,
the second layer of said three layers having magnetic material,
the third of said at least three layers consisting of at least one layer of a transparent material used to form a corner object receiving pocket;
and

a planar object having corner edges to complement the size and shape of the receiving pocket formed and adapted to be held therein.

Claim 5. The combination of a holder and an object with corner edges as claimed in claim 4 wherein there are at least two substantially identical holders spaced from each other and adapted to engage a different corner of the same planar object to be held.

Claim 6. The holder for an object as claimed in claim 5, wherein

said third and fourth transparent material layers are made of clear plastic material.

Claim 7. The combination of holder and an object with corner edges comprising:

a holder having at least three distinct material layers,

the first layer of said three layers having a non-slip surface to engage and bear against the corner surface of the object to be held,

the second layer of said three layers having magnetic material,

another of said at least three layers consisting of at least one layer of a transparent material to form a corner object receiving pocket; and

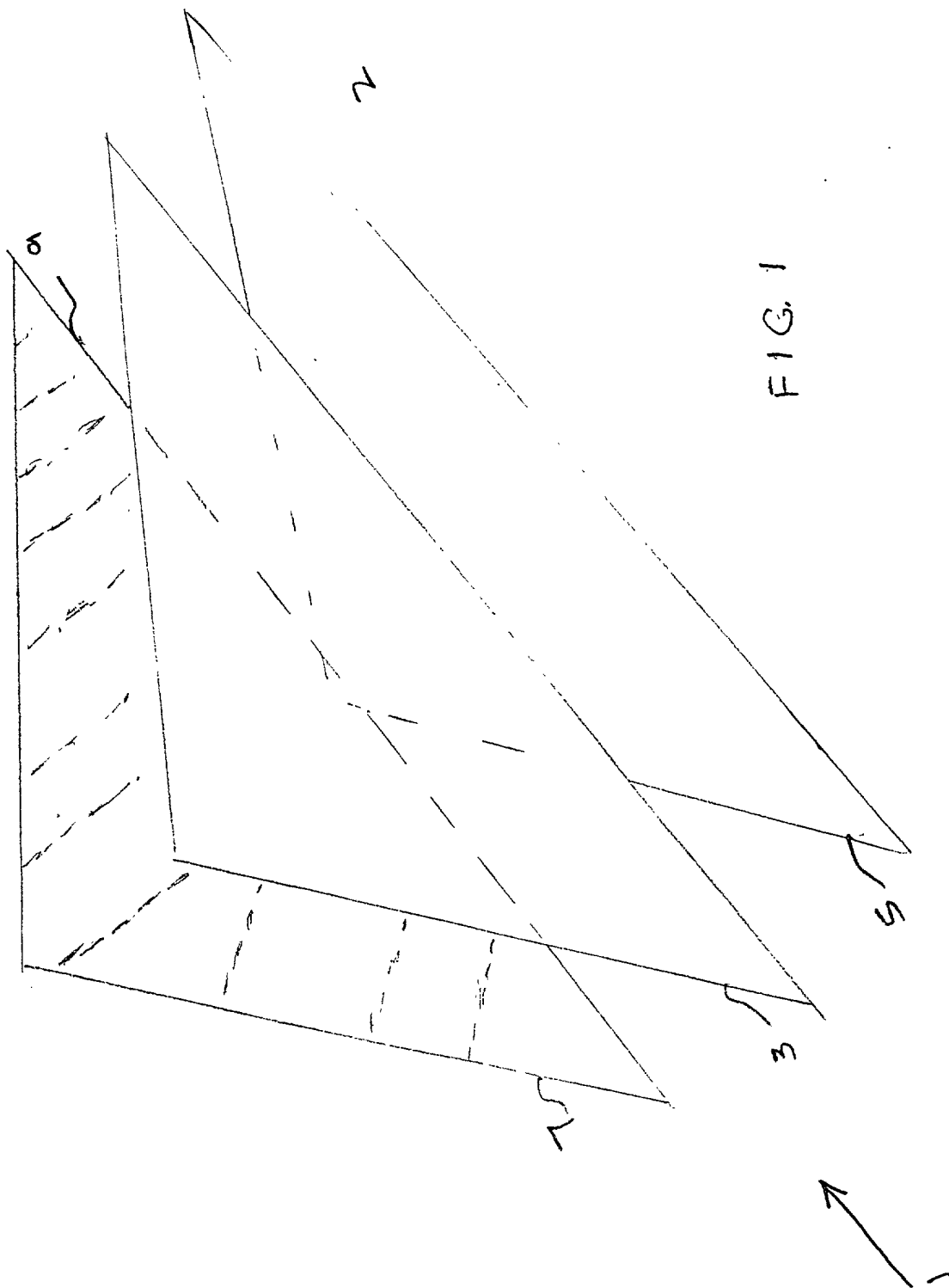
an object having corner edges to complement the size and shape of the receiving pocket.

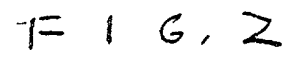
Claim 8. The combination of a holder and an object with corner edges as claimed in claim 7 wherein there are at least two substantially identical holders spaced from each other and adapted to engage, in a receiving pocket, a different corner of the object to be held.

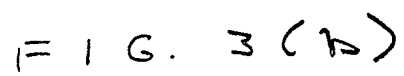
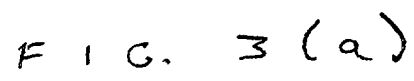
ABSTRACT

002060-0103960

A holder for an object such as a photograph or a calendar. The holder may consist of either three distinct layer or four layers. If made of three layers, there is an object engaging non-slip layer, a layer with magnetic properties that bears against the non-slip layer and an outer transparent or clear layer. A pocket formed between layers is used to receive a corner of the object to be held . This pocket is formed between the non-slip layer and the outer transparent layer. If four layers are used in the construction of the holder, then the transparent layer is folded to extend to enclose both the magnetic layer and the non-slip layer to form a corner object receiving pocket between them. All holders may have a triangular shape with an opened hypotenuse side used to receive the edge of the object to be held. At lease two such holders are normally used to retain an object, although six holders, one at each corner of the object and two at mid length, may be used to provide for greater holding strength. Variations in object dimensions may be compensated for by simply moving the movable holder corners different distances apart on the supporting metallic surface, like on a refrigerator door.

[illegible]

[illegible]



DECLARATION FOR PATENT APPLICATION

As a below named inventor, I hereby declare that:

My residence, post office address and citizenship are as stated below next to my name.

I believe I am the original, first and sole inventor (if only one name is listed below) or an original, first and joint inventor (if plural names are listed below) of the subject matter which is claimed and for which a patent is sought on the invention entitled **Magnet Picture Pals** , the specification of which is attached hereto unless the following box is checked:

[] was filed on * as United States Application Number or PCT International Application Number * and was amended on * (if applicable).

I hereby state that I have reviewed and understand the contents of the above identified specification, including the claims, as amended by any amendment referred above.

I acknowledge the duty to disclose information which is material to patentability as defined in Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, § 1.56.

I hereby claim foreign priority benefits under Title 35, United States Code, § 119 of any foreign application(s) for patent or inventor's certificate listed below and have also identified any foreign application for patent or inventor's certificate having a filing date before that of the application on which priority is claimed.

Prior Foreign Application(s)

Priority Claimed

☐ Yes ☒ No

(Number)

(Country)

(Day/Month/Year Filed)

I hereby claim the benefit under Title 35 United States Code, § 120 of any United States application(s) listed below and, insofar as the subject matter of each of the claims of this application is not disclosed in the prior United States application in the manner provided by the first paragraph of Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, § 1.56 which became available between the filing date of the prior application and the national or PCT international filing date of this application.

(Application Number)

(Filing Date)

(Status - patented, pending, abandoned)

I hereby appoint the following attorney(s) and/or agent(s) to prosecute this application and to transact all business in the Patent and Trademark Office connected therewith:

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I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under § 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code, and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application, any patent issuing thereon.

Full name of sole or first inventor (first name, last name) **Russel Dale Cole**

Inventor's signature Russell D. Cole X Date 8-4-2000

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